

INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL
COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RECORDER: Barbara Ferreira

DATE: July 26, 2001

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT POINTS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Raymond M. Peterson, M.D., Chair; Patricia Aguiar, DSS; Gwendolyn Aldridge, DADP, Ellen Broms, CDE; Arleen Downing, M.D., Nancy Lee, DOI, Hallie Morrow, M.D., DHS, James Queirolo, DMH, Marie Kanne Poulsen, Ph.D., Elaine Fogel Schneider, Ph.D., Cheri Schoenborn, DDS; and Patty Moore, FRC/N-CA

Introductions & Announcements:

Dr. Peterson welcomed everyone to Sacramento and acknowledged the return of James Queirolo from DMH and Ellen Broms from CDE. He introduced Dr. Hallie Morrow, who is the new representative for the Department of Health – noting that Dr. Valerie Charlton has accepted new position with the Lead Program in DHS. Mr. Queirolo announced that Cynthia Rutledge is the new designee from DMH, and that she will attend tomorrow's meeting. Dr. Peterson announced that that Wally Olsen has accepted a position as Director of People Services at the Carpinteria School District. He also announced the retirement of Janine Swanson, CDE and her resignation from the Health Systems Committee. Her letter of resignation will be included with the minutes. He noted that Ms. Swanson is dealing with some health issues and that a card of encouragement will be circulated. Pat Augiar announced that the Department of Social Services is undergoing reorganization. Their new ICC representative, as of September, will be Carolyn Ortiz, who is Chief of the Office of Child Abuse Prevention. Patty Moore announced that Mara McGrath was elected as Chair of the FRCN of CA and will be the FRCN of CA's representative on the ICC, effective with the September meeting

Dr. Peterson acknowledged Special Guests Julie Jackson and Rick Ingraham from the Department of Developmental Services. He noted that Julie Jackson, who served on the ICC for many years, was instrumental in the planning and implementation of Early Start as the State's first Part C Coordinator, and that she is now the new Deputy Director of Community Services and Support Division in DDS. Ms. Jackson thanked Dr. Peterson for the warm reception and indicated it was great to see so many familiar faces. She then announced the appointment of Rick Ingraham, Manager of the Children and Family Services Branch, as the new Part C Coordinator for California (letter attached). Ms. Jackson read letter from Cliff Allenby, Director of DDS, commending Cheri Schoenborn for her services (letter attached). Ms. Schoenborn will continue to participate with the ICC as the ICC Staff Manager.

The ICC members, community representatives, staff, and members of the audience provided self-introductions.

Presentation On Child Development Policy Advisory Committee (CDPAC)

Dr. Peterson introduced Kay Ryan, who previously represented DSS on the ICC. In 1999, she was selected as the Executive Director of CDPAC. Ms. Ryan gave an overview of her background with the DSS and the Foster Care Program. She provided a side-by-side comparison of CDPAC and the ICC. CDPAC was developed as an advisory committee with the first appointments made by the Governor in 1965. The membership includes parents of children participating in child care and child development programs, child care providers, private health care and education representatives and representatives from CDE, DSS, DHS, DDS and the Employment Development Department. Nine one-day meetings are held each year in Sacramento. Child care programs in California are primarily funded by CDE and DSS. There are a number of other agencies involved in funding after school programs.

The crisis in child care is "shortage", both of providers and funding. The budget provided a \$2.25 billion reserve, therefore no significant increases were provided to expand state subsidized child care programs. CDPAC believes there are three reasons to invest in child care:

1. The Children – The early years are important in their development. Quality child care is the care that meets the child's basic needs for physical, social and cognitive development.
2. Their Families - The 2000 census estimates that there are 557,286 children in child care under the age of 14. According to a national study conducted in 1997, 56% of the mothers are employed outside of home.
3. The Economy – The child care industry is huge and would be #100 on the fortune 500 list.

With the increase in the number of families in the work force, child care is hard to find, even harder for parents of children with special needs. The labor crisis in child care is revealed in the comparison of salaries and benefits: child care workers make less than parking lot attendants. The turnover rate is very high at 30%. Child care providers earn low, yet child care is still expensive to those needing it. A single mother earning minimum wage has to spend an average of 55% of her income to place her infant in a licensed child care setting. It costs more to put a child in child care for four years than to send that child to college.

CDPAC provides forums on public policy recommendations to the Governor, Legislators, and relevant State Departments concerning child care and development. The report of these meetings is provided to all 121 legislators. The detailed minutes are sent to over 1300 individuals and organizations. Key issues have been identified. A long-range policy guide and budgetary plan are needed. With the passage of SB 390 a master plan would be implemented. Ms. Ryan provided an issue brief on this bill (attached), which is now with the Legislative Committee on Appropriations.

Among the things CDPAC is working on are:

1. An update of Alphabet Soup, which is an acronym list of terms used concerning young children and services for them. This can be downloaded from their web site at www.cdpac.ca.gov.
2. An update of the Foundation Grant Directory.
3. Development of brochures on how to find child care. These will be available on their website.

4. A link to the Child Care Resource and Referral agencies, also available on their website.

Presentation On Child Care By CDE

Mr. Michael Jett, Director of Child Development Division

Mary Smithberger, Consultant

Rich Miller, Consultant

Linda Brault, Sonoma State University

Mr. Jett provided an overview of the Child Development Division and how it fits within the organizational structure of CDE (see attached). CDE is a constitutional office with the Superintendent of Public Education as an elected official. The Board of Education is appointed by the Governor. Mr. Jett discussed CDE's Quality Improvement Plan and activities to support inclusion of children with disabilities and other special needs in child care settings. The Map to Inclusive Child Care (see handout) has lead to the start up of many projects in the child care field. Three new products, in addition to coordination, are being produced this year: 1) a report on the various groups who provide child care will show what the various barriers are for exclusive child care and how to remove them; 2) a special model for strategies for inclusion, which will demonstrate what works and what has been successful; and 3) a special publication on issues of school aged children and inclusion which is being produced because of their connection to the k-12 system after school programs. CDE provides funds for the California Child Care Health Program through a contract with San Diego State University. The Department also provides funding for a "Healthline" (1-800-333-3212), also run by San Diego State University, to provide assistance to parents and child care providers on inclusion issues. An overall issue of CDE is desired results evaluation and accountability. To achieve this in CDD, child care program standards are being developed along with a Desired Results System.

Mr. Jett reported that one-time funds were received for upgrading playgrounds on public or private nonprofit child care agencies, currently under contract with CDE/CDD, to be compliant with the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Funds were also received for Resource and Referral Agencies and Local Child Care Planning Councils to provide training of individuals to provide quality child care at the local levels.

California's Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers (PITC) Regional Support Network was reviewed (see attached).

Mr. Jett introduced Rich Miller, Field Services Consultant, who provided information on the monitoring and provision of technical assistance to child care contractors. Four major projects are being discussed by the Field Services Unit:

1. The differences between the ADA and IDEA and how they impact the program. (Education, age appropriate, reasonable accommodations, best practices, etc.)
2. Policies and procedures that need to be put in place to guide the contractors in establishing their local policy and procedures in regard to working with families of children with special needs.

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3. Collaborating with Special Education and the Quality Improvement activities to provide the desired results and make sure that the instrument used is sensitive to children with special needs.
4. Several workshops are being developed for the upcoming Child Development Conference.

Mr. Jett then introduced Mary Smithberger who is responsible for capacity building. Ms. Smithberger shared information on CDE's current model projects (see attached). They hope to add five more model projects next year. She also indicated that infant toddler earmark funds were received in 1997 for providing and improving infant/toddler child care. Relationship based care is promoted through activity based child care for infants and toddlers. Videos and material have been developed through a contract with WestEd Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers (PTIC). Training for trainers, regional trainers/coordinators and certified trainers have been developed/secured to provide quality child care services (see attachment).

Ms. Smithberger introduced Linda Brault, Project Director for "Beginning Together", a project funded by CDE. Ms. Brault provided information on local/regional communities linking with early intervention and the infant/toddler care communities. The vision of the outreach project is to address the needs of children in child care and in early intervention.

Discussion On Child Care Issues

Kay Ryan, Michael Jett, and Mary Smithberger

Commentors indicated the relationship based training videos are great for the child care givers, however they would like to see a follow-up video for parents.

Dr. Poulsen indicated the Prop 10 funding could be the "glue to hold the system together." She advised that all intervention providers and child care providers should receive the training developed for the Infant Family Mental Health (IFMH) Initiative addressing the importance of "relationship". A vision of the IFMH Initiative is support and guidance to all parents. She indicated such training/support should be provided to first time mothers and isolated mothers and eventually to all mothers.

The ICC discussed next steps. A recommendation was made to request leaders of the State Prop 10 Commission attend a future meeting and discuss the various partnerships and programs regarding child care issues. Dr. Peterson also suggested that the ICC could invite Dr. Robert Ross, Director of the California Endowment Foundation to attend a future meeting.

One concern of child care is to look at ways services are delivered. How are families supported to get services in more than one place? How are all the different case management requirements handled? When a child comes into child care with an aid, the aid must have training. Continuum of care, how could this be possible? Funding is a major issue.

On-going discussion on child care issues using the resource material provided from this meeting will be on the agenda for the next COTW meeting. A request was made to

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disseminate the child care position paper that was endorsed by the ICC and submitted to DDS in January 2000, to the field and present it at the October CDPAC meeting (the child care position paper is attached). Ms. Schoenborn indicated that she and Dr. Poulsen had shared this with CDPAC last year but it would be a good idea to continue with a focused discussion. Dr. Peterson asked the FSSC, who developed the position paper, to identify a representative from the FSSC to present and discuss the paper with CDPAC.

Ad Hoc Committee Report On Recommendation For Foster Care/Early Start

The action item will be presented for vote at the meeting on Friday.

There is a revision to item #3, sixth bullet, it should read: "4) Family members who need added supports to keep their children at home."

Agenda Review

Committee chairs reviewed the afternoon committee meeting agendas. The FSSC and the QAPPSC will be meeting in a combined session at beginning of the committee meetings. Each committee was requested to look at the possible conflict of date/location with the November ICC meeting currently scheduled for Sacramento, and the Zero-to-Three Conference, which will be held in San Diego on November 30 – December 2, 2001.